

The Stark County Democrat.

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CANTON OHIO THURSDAY JAN. 23, 1890.

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TROUBLE**Over Who is to be Postmaster.****Applications as Thick as Fleas in Summer Time.**

The postoffice war is on. It is being waged in all bitterness. A number of applicants care not who is to suffer by their work. They are rapidly dragging in their friends, to reduce in a business way no matter how the contest results.

The Grand Army Post has been drawn into the vortex of political ambition. One church is said to be being drawn in and rumors are flying about that others will follow in its wake.

All this is an unseemly scramble for an office that will only be under Republican control for two short years.

When the news had gone forth that Benjamin Harrison had been elected President of the United States, it flew around in Republican circles. It was not two days after that candidates for the position occupied by Postmaster Archinal announced themselves.

As near as could be learned, W. E. Miller, patent solicitor, and a near relative of Major McKinley, was the first to announce himself for the position of postmaster. He drew up his paper and had it circulated and it was largely signed.

He did not have a clear field, as he fondly expected. There were those in the Republican ranks who were not advocates of Neponset, fearing that there was enough of it being exhibited by the President. So it was not long after Mr. Miller had announced his candidacy that others stepped into the arena for a fight for post-office honors. It would be hard to give the names in the order in which they were announced. They came so fast that the announcements of the various names were made on the same second of the same day of the same year. Not being the province of this paper to take sides in a Republican quarrel, nor, naturally, how bitter, the fact that all the announcements were made at exactly the same time of the same day, and at that time were South Hillman, W. G. Myers, George C. Cook, William Wyant, H. S. Myers, and Jefferson House.

Others were announced, but it was soon what a bitter fight was on and they withdrew before the public was aware that they had been in the field.

With these men announced the contest was fairly open from the start. Each man had a paper out, and some of them had a number. The candidate held one paper for himself and the others were circulated among his working friends. Then it was that a citizen over the block, two blocks without, who showed him a paper for signature, asking that Mr. Seaseando be appointed postmaster.

The contest grew warmer and soon the lists had been circulated so vigorously that most of the names on one man's petition were to be found on the petitions of all the other candidates. Every name was used to instill infinite distrust among the citizens into signing the papers. Soon it came to pass that as soon as a citizen saw another citizen approaching with a paper in his hand, he would pull forth his pet paper and the two would begin to argue over whose paper was best.

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Thus things had got into a muddle. All the candidates had their friends, and the fight for a time was transferred from the streets to the Grand Army Post. W. O. Myers appeared to be the strongest.

W. E. Miller claimed he incurred this old hostility between Moyer and himself burst out anew and he pitched in to bring out as victor. Squire Braden, who rented rooms from him. It is said that it was through Colonel Clark's efforts that W. E. Miller was turned off the track and into the field pastures, the richness of the latter field greatly upping his claim.

Mr. Miller espoused the cause of Squire Braden.

It is now learned that all the time there was in the race George V. L. Melling, one of McKinley's right hand men. While in the race, it is understood, he tried to get into his camp as his competitor had done. He stood on his merits, but it is stated that he has hustled exceedingly much, and while his strength is not known it is thought to be great.

When the fight was transferred to the G. A. R. Post, it did not last long for the leaders of the G. A. R. to be put into the interests of their favorite. While there has not been any evidence pointing to hair pulling, it is known that friendships have been broken and much bad feeling engendered. No one has yet been disrupted.

The G. A. R. Post, Belief Corps were not enough organized in the fight, it appears. A petition has been secured to show that the "gossiprice fever" is working almost as much damage in the First M. E. church as the la grippe is generally throughout the city, and something serious may be looked for before long.

When the rumor reached the church of the measures being resorted to by certain friends of the candidates in other fields, the members started to leg it for their friends. As the interest grew the feeling of the members increased until among certain ones it was at a fever heat. It will grow steadily until the appointment is made. If it is not done soon the chances are that the church will lose certain of its members.

A majority, if not all of the candidates, belong to secret organizations and these may take up the fight. If they do, some good may be done, as can be expected and more than one hand will ring after the battle has died away.

Sergeants have the fight grown that Major McKinley was advised by some friends to visit Canton and cast-oil upon the arthritic waters. He came Sunday morning, Jan. 20, stay last night \$1.00. When he returned to Washington he found his home to be in a terrible condition. He found his wife absent. They had been married for three months and he had been working hard for her.

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